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Ho-p'ing Jih-pao

FRANCO-CHINESE TRADE MEETS DIFFICULTIES

Resent conferences between a French Economic Mission and the Central Trust resulted in efforts to improve trade between China and France. The plan is for China to ship tea and heap, and France to send digarette paper to China. But negotiations are stalemated over the price question. For emmple, it costs 30 IB cents for a unit of heap for which the French are willing to pay only 18.90 cents. The French ask \$4.55 per pound for cigatite paper, a profes the Chiases cannot pay. A further complication is a difference in the rate of exchange between the British pound and the UB dollar. In France the pound is worth UB \$4.00, in China only UB \$3.00. If China tries to do business at this French rate of exchange, the cost to her will be too great. Because of the difficulties mentioned above, prospects for recumpation of trade are meager.

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